सेवाएं प्रदान करती है। इनमें दूरसंचार सम्पर्कों की स्थापना, निःशुल्क चिकित्सा जांच, भोजन व्यवस्था, रहने का प्रबंध तथा यात्रा के दौरान और तीर्थयात्रा स्थलों पर चिकित्सा सुविधाएं, एवं जहां कहीं आवश्यक हो, तीर्थयात्रियों को सुरक्षा प्रदान करना शामिल है।

Indian Students in Russia

951. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report appearing in the Hindustan Times of April 7, 1998 about the increasing number of Indian nationals who are falling victim to skinhead attacks in Moscow and other Russian cities;

(b) if so, the details of Government's independent information in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent such attacks on Indian expatriates and students in Russia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) there have recently been around a dozen incidents of intimidation or assault by skinheads involving Indian nationals in Russia. While the degree of injury or verbal abuse has varied, there has been no confirmed report of death or serious injury requiring prolonged hospitalization of Indian nationals, arising out of such incidents. Upon enquiry, media reports of a sharp rise in violent racial attacks against Indians in Russia proved to be exaggerated.

(c) In view of earlier isolated incidents involving Indian nationals, the Embassy of India, Moscow, had even prior to the publication of the "Hindustan Times" article of 7 April 1998 sensitised the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Interior, the local Moscow City authorities, and Russian specialised agencies, of our extreme concern over such developments affecting Indian nationals and urged them to intensify measures to ensure the safety of Indian nationals. Such concerns were reiterated at frequent intervals and as a result patrolling around University campuses and around metro stations was increased. Other measures taken to instil confidence in the Indian community included: (i) Establishment of direct contact with Rectors of institutions where Indian students are studying; (ii) Meetings of Embassy officials with representatives of the Indian student and business communities who were urged not to panic, take adequate precautions, move around in groups, immediately register any incident, cooperate with the police, and keep the Embassy fully informed. (iii) Visits by Embassy officials to University hostels where Indian students are concentrated. As a result of the steps taken the number of reported incidents quickly declined, and a sense of calm and security returned within the Indian community.

Development of Food Processing Industries

952. SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH: SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of different schemes/incentives/programmes etc. undertaken by the Ministry for developing Food Processing Industries in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and the North-Eastern Region, during the preceding five years; and

(b) what have been the achievement levels reached with regard to each?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries has formulated several Plan Schemes for promoting development of processed foods in the sectors of Fruits & vegetables processing. Meat & poultry processing. Fisheries etc. in the country. Under these schemes

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